Prefindt Raseep 1/10/01

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Yosuke SHIRA/TA

Serial Number: 09/684,898

Filed: October 10, 2000

DEC 2 1 2000 W

Group Art Unit: 2851

Examiner: NGUYEN, H (Expected)

For: LITHOGRAPHY SYSTEM AND METHOD

RECEIVED

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT ULU 2 7 2000

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

Director of Patents and Trademarks Washington, D.C. 20231

December 21, 2000

Dear Sir:

The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please CANCEL claims 9, 16 and 18 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please AMEND claims as follows:

1. (Amended) A lithography system [including] comprising:

an exposure apparatus which [exposes] projects a pattern on to a substrate [to project a

pattern onto it] on which resist is coated [, and];

a substrate processing apparatus connected to said exposure apparatus [and adapted to

process] which processes the substrate [, the system comprising:]: